

What is claimed is;

1. A voice reference apparatus that classifies a plurality of search targets into a plurality of division blocks, searches for a search target by first specifying a division block and then specifying said search target and enables specification of, at least, said search target to be made by voice, comprising:

10 a first storage device in which recognition data related to search targets corresponding to individual division blocks are stored;

15 a second storage device in which division block-related information indicating one or more other division blocks related to a given division block through a specific relationship is stored;

20 a recognition data selection device that selects recognition data corresponding to only a certain division block and one or more other division blocks related to said certain division block specified by said division block-related information from said first storage device, when said certain division block has been specified; and

25 a voice recognition processing device that performs voice recognition based upon voice recognition data generated by using said recognition data selected by said recognition data selection device and audio data

corresponding to said search target specified by voice.

2. A voice reference apparatus according to claim 1,  
wherein:

5       said plurality of division blocks are public  
administrative zones;

          said search target is located in one of said public  
administrative zones; and

10      said division block-related information indicates one  
or more other public administrative zones related to a  
specified public administrative zone through a specific  
relationship.

3. A voice reference apparatus according to claim 2,  
15     wherein;

      said public administrative zones are each constituted  
of a prefecture.

4. A voice reference apparatus according to claim 2,  
20     wherein;

      said public administrative zones are each constituted  
of a state.

5. A voice reference apparatus according to claim 2,  
25     wherein;

45  
said public administrative zones are each constituted  
of a country.

6. A voice reference apparatus according to claim 2,  
5 wherein;

50  
said division block-related information indicates one  
or more other public administrative zones adjacent to a  
specified public administrative zone.

10 7. A voice reference apparatus according to claim 6,  
wherein;

55  
said recognition data related to said search target  
includes information related to a public administrative  
zone in which said search target is located .

15  
8. A voice reference apparatus according to claim 7,  
further comprising:

20  
a display control device that implements control to  
display details related to results of a search of said  
search target on a display device, wherein;

25  
when implementing control to display the details  
related to the results of the search of said search target,  
said display control device also displays on said display  
device information related to the public administrative  
zone in which said search target is located.

SEARCH APPARATUS

1. A voice recognition navigation apparatus, comprising:

2. a voice reference apparatus;

3. a map information storage device that stores map

5 information; and

6. a control device that implements control for providing

7 route guidance based upon, at least, results of a search

8 performed by said voice reference apparatus and said map

9 information, wherein;

10. said voice reference apparatus, which classifies a

11 plurality of search targets into a plurality of division

12 blocks, searches for a search target by first specifying a

13 division block and then specifying said search target and

14 enables specification of, at least, said search target to

15 be made by voice, comprises:

16. a first storage device in which recognition data

17 related to search targets corresponding to individual

18 division blocks are stored;

19. a second storage device in which division block-

20 related information indicating one or more other division

21 blocks related to a given division block through a specific

22 relationship is stored;

23. a recognition data selection device that selects

24 recognition data corresponding to only a certain division

25 block and one or more other division blocks related to said

certain division block specified by said division block-related information from said first storage device, when said certain division block has been specified; and

a voice recognition processing device that performs

5 voice recognition based upon voice recognition data generated by using said recognition data selected by said recognition data selection device and audio data corresponding to said search target specified by voice.

10 ~~10. A recording medium that records a voice reference control program for searching for a search target specified by voice, by first specifying a division block and then specifying said search target, said control program comprising:~~

15 an instruction for reading recognition data related to search targets, a plurality of said search targets being classified into a plurality of division blocks;

an instruction for reading data related to division block-related information indicating one or more other

20 division blocks related to a given block through a specific relationship;

an instruction for selecting recognition data corresponding to only a certain division block and one or more other division blocks related to said certain division

25 block specified by said division block-related information

when said certain division block has been specified; and  
an instruction for implementing a voice recognition  
based upon voice recognition data generated by using said  
recognition data that have been selected and audio data  
5 corresponding to said search target specified by voice.

~~11. A data signal transmitted in a communication line and comprising a voice reference control program for searching for a search target specified by voice, by first specifying a division block and then specifying said search target, said control program comprising:~~

~~an instruction for reading recognition data related to search targets, a plurality of said search targets being classified into a plurality of division blocks;~~

15 ~~an instruction for reading data related to division block-related information indicating one or more other division blocks related to a given block through a specific relationship;~~

20 ~~an instruction for selecting recognition data corresponding to only a certain division block and one or more other division blocks related to said certain division block specified by said division block-related information when said certain division block has been specified; and~~

25 ~~an instruction for implementing a voice recognition based upon voice recognition data generated by using said~~

recognition data that have been selected and audio data corresponding to said search target specified by voice.